Leontius of Vanand

(d. 451)

BRIEFING

A high level priest also known as St. Ghevond (in Armenian Սուրբ Ղևոնդ). Highly educated, he studied under Mesrop Mashtots. He was fluent in Persian and worked as a translator. Leontius opposed attempts by the Magi and Sassanid Dynasty, to forcibly convert the Armenian people to Zoroastrianism, As an advisor to Vardan Mamikonian, he was present at the Battle of Avarayr in 451. He was subsequently captured, imprisoned, and beheaded .